



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
-----------------	-------------	----------------------	---------------------	------------------

10/782,589

02/18/2004

Ronald Baruzzi

2003-0119

4749

26652 7590 03/10/2008
AT&T CORP.
ROOM 2A207
ONE AT&T WAY
BEDMINSTER, NJ 07921

EXAMINER

PATEL, HEMANT SHANTILAL

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2614

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

03/10/2008

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/782,589	Applicant(s) BARUZZI ET AL.	
	Examiner HEMANT PATEL	Art Unit 2614	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 18 February 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Objections

1. Claim 1 is objected to because of the following informalities: It recites “sub networks” and “subnetworks”. For consistency, only one terminology should be used. Appropriate correction is required.
2. Claim 8 is objected to because of the following informalities: It recites “ID” in ll. 4. Actual phrase must precede its abbreviation at its first use. Appropriate correction is required.
3. Claim 9 is objected to because of the following informalities: It recites “CIC” in ll. 2. Actual phrase must precede its abbreviation at its first use. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

4. Claims 1-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Independent claim 1 recites “the call” on ll. 9. It is not clear if it refers to “calls” on ll. 4 or it refers to “calls” on ll. 6-7.
5. Claim 1 recites the limitation “said first” in 3-4 and “said second” in ll. 5-6, 8. There is insufficient antecedent basis for these limitations in the claim.
6. Claim 4 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant

regards as the invention. It recites "said associated information" in ll. 1. It is not clear if it refers to information in parent claim 2 ll. 2 or information in parent claim 1 ll. 9.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

7. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

8. Claims 1-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Smyk (US Patent No. 6,603,760 B1).

Regarding claim 1, Smyk teaches of a method of processing calls in an aggregate telecommunications network having at least two sub networks, comprising the steps of:

creating a set of decision criteria, applied in said first (Fig. 4 item 402) of said at least two sub networks, that determine which calls entering said first of said at least two sub networks should receive service processing in said second (Fig. 4 item 400) of said at least two sub networks;

for calls that are to receive service processing in said second subnetwork, guiding those calls to that subnetwork (col. 5 ll. 12-21, 28-57; col. 6 ll. 3-47; guiding calls to PSTN);

invoking service processing by said second of said at least two sub networks based on *information provided to it with the call (col. 6 ll. 48-57; service processing i.e. telephony or AIN services in PSTN is based on information i.e. dialed digits provided with the call)* **or** on the particular **or** type of incoming trunk **or** transmission pipe the call comes in on (col. 4 ll. 64-col. 9 ll. 50).

Regarding claim 2, Smyk teaches of the method further comprising the step of: providing information conveyed by signaling that accompanies the call guided from the first subnetwork to the second subnetwork that is sufficient for causing the invocation of service processing in the second subnetwork (col. 6 ll. 11-47 SM sending set-up message to class 5 switch; col. 6 ll. 34-47 SM causing signaling of ABCD bits for connection necessary for invocation of service).

Regarding claim 3, Smyk teaches of the method further comprising the step of: providing information conveyed by signaling that accompanies the call guided from the first to second subnetwork that is sufficient for supporting service processing in the second subnetwork (col. 6 ll. 11-47 SM sending set-up message to class 5 switch and SM causing signaling of ABCD bits for connection sufficient for supporting of service; col. 6 ll. 48-57 dialed digits sufficient for service are conveyed via signaling).

Regarding claim 4, Smyk teaches of the method wherein said associated information for invoking service processing comprises:

information selected from the group of routing number, *original dialed number*, an explicit trigger **or** a combination thereof (col. 6 ll. 11-13, 48-57, information in set-up message and dialed digits i.e. original dialed number).

Regarding claim 5, Smyk teaches of the method wherein said associated information for supporting service processing is selected from the group of information available to the first subnetwork *calling party number (col. 5 ll. 46-53 subscription of customer based on calling party number), original dialed number (col. 6 ll. 48-57 telephony or AIN services based on collected digits i.e. original dialed number)*, routing number, charge number, Originating Line Information, Customer ID, **or** a combination thereof.

Regarding claim 6, Smyk teaches of the method further comprising the step of: targeting a specific element **or** type of element within said second subnetwork of said at least two sub networks to invoke service processing for the call (col. 6 ll. 11-13 specific class 5 switch; col. 8 ll. 46-47 PSTN type of network element).

Regarding claim 7, Smyk teaches of the method where the selection of the specific element **or** type of element within said second subnetwork may be based on the location of the origination of the call into the first said subnetwork (col. 5 ll. 1-7 local service provider for a subscriber is based on subscriber line location originating the call).

Regarding claim 8, Smyk teaches of the method wherein said decision criteria is selected from at least **one of** the group of:

service type, *features potentially applicable within a given service type (col.5 ll. 46-53 service subscription)*, called party number, original dialed number, an ID of a switch in said first of said at least two sub networks, how close the ingress switch in said first subnetwork is in terms of some proximity measure to said second subnetwork, the

Art Unit: 2614

identity or type of the particular trunk group over which the call entered said first of said at least two subnetworks, *the ANI of the call (col. 5 ll. 46-53 service subscription related to customer line i.e. ANI)*, the calling party number of the call, the current load allocation of the first of said at least two sub networks, the current load allocation of the second of said at least two sub networks, the existence of a qualifying routing plan or routing information to send a call into said second of said at least two subnetworks, *an on/off toggle administrable from a work center (col. 5 ll. 4-9 toggling service subscription)*, the type of service processor requires to handle the call **or** a combination thereof.

Regarding claim 9, Smyk teaches of the method wherein the guidance of calls to the second subnetwork is responsive to a routing number, a pseudo CIC code, *other routing information (col. 6 ll. 50-57 dialed digits as other routing information)* **or** a combination thereof.

9. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

10. Claims 1-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by March (US Patent No. 6,327,358 B1).

Regarding claim 1, March teaches of a method of processing calls in an aggregate telecommunications network having at least two sub networks, comprising the steps of:

creating a set of decision criteria (col. 6 ll. 54-64 lowest common point of access; col. 6 ll. 65-col. 7 ll. 9 gateway that is lightly loaded etc.), applied in said first (Fig. 1 item 104) of said at least two sub networks, that determine which calls entering said first of said at least two sub networks should receive service processing in said second (Fig. 1 item 106) of said at least two sub networks;

for calls that are to receive service processing in said second subnetwork, guiding those calls to that subnetwork (col. 6 ll. 44-col. 7 ll. 45; redirecting calls to IP network);

invoking service processing by said second of said at least two sub networks based on *information provided to it with the call (col. 8 ll. 16-34)* **or** on the particular **or** type of incoming trunk **or** transmission pipe the call comes in on (col. 5 ll. 65-col. 12 ll. 65).

Regarding claim 2, March teaches of the method further comprising the step of:

providing information conveyed by signaling that accompanies the call guided from the first subnetwork to the second subnetwork that is sufficient for causing the invocation of service processing in the second subnetwork (Fig. 3A step 314; Fig. 4A step 416 IAM with different parameters).

Regarding claim 3, March teaches of the method further comprising the step of:

providing information conveyed by signaling that accompanies the call guided from the first to second subnetwork that is sufficient for supporting service processing in the second subnetwork (Fig. 4A step 416 IAM with different parameters i.e. CLD, DPC, IPA).

Regarding claim 4, March teaches of the method wherein said associated information for invoking service processing comprises:

information selected from the group of *routing number (using DPC in IAM)*, original dialed number, an explicit trigger **or** a combination thereof (Fig. 4A step 416 IAM with DPC).

Regarding claim 5, March teaches of the method wherein said associated information for supporting service processing is selected from the group of information available to the first subnetwork calling party number, original dialed number, *routing number (using DPC in IAM)*, charge number, Originating Line Information, Customer ID, **or** a combination thereof (Fig. 4A step 416 IAM with DPC).

Regarding claim 6, March teaches of the method further comprising the step of: targeting a specific element **or** type of element within said second subnetwork of said at least two sub networks to invoke service processing for the call (col. 5 ll. 44-col. 6 ll. 44 redirecting calls to specific IP gateway).

Regarding claim 7, March teaches of the method where the selection of the specific element **or** type of element within said second subnetwork may be based on the location of the origination of the call into the first said subnetwork (col. 6 ll. 54-64 selection of IP gateway corresponding to the DN in second subnetwork is based on lowest common point of access for the location of calling terminal originating the call).

Regarding claim 8, March teaches of the method wherein said decision criteria is selected from at least **one of** the group of:

service type, features potentially applicable within a given service type, called party number, original dialed number, an ID of a switch in said first of said at least two sub networks, *how close the ingress switch in said first subnetwork is in terms of some proximity measure to said second subnetwork (col. 6 ll. 54-64 selection of IP gateway corresponding to the DN in second subnetwork is based on lowest common point of access for the ingress switch)*, the identity or type of the particular trunk group over which the call entered said first of said at least two subnetworks, the ANI of the call, the calling party number of the call, the current load allocation of the first of said at least two sub networks, *the current load allocation of the second of said at least two sub networks (col. 6 ll. 65-col. 7 ll. 10 selection of IP gateway corresponding to the load in second subnetwork)*, the existence of a qualifying routing plan or routing information to send a call into said second of said at least two subnetworks, an on/off toggle administrable from a work center, the type of service processor requires to handle the call **or** a combination thereof.

Regarding claim 9, March teaches of the method wherein the guidance of calls to the second subnetwork is responsive to *a routing number (IAM with DPC)*, a pseudo CIC code, *other routing information (IAM with CLD, IPA)* **or** *a combination thereof (IAM with CLD, DPC, IPA)* (Fig. 4A, step 416).

Regarding claim 10, March teaches of the method further comprising:

identifying qualified Routing Plans and using said qualified plans in said decision step wherein the provisioning system responsible for installing Routing Plans as part of service logic examines each plan to determine its eligibility for service processing in the

Art Unit: 2614

second subnetwork (col. 6 ll. 54-col. 7 ll. 45, different routing plans used by service logic provisioned statically or dynamically).

Conclusion

11. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

US Patent No. 6,282,192	Murphy	
US Patent No. 6,272,215	Cockrell	
US Patent No. 6,363,065	Thornton	
US Patent Application Publication No. 2004/0228466		Bedingfield
US Patent No. 7,215,643	Mussman	
US Patent No. 7,295,665	Plunkett	

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to HEMANT PATEL whose telephone number is (571)272-8620. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Fan Tsang can be reached on 571-272-7547. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Art Unit: 2614

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Hemant Patel
Examiner
Art Unit 2614

HSP

/Fan Tsang/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2614